

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method of installing a network protocol on a computer comprising:

automatically loading the network protocol on the computer in response to a process-initiating event, wherein the process-initiating event includes selecting a shortcut to a shared network location from the computer; and

automatically binding an existing network adapter to the network protocol.

6. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method of installing a network protocol on a computer comprising:

automatically loading the network protocol on the computer in response to a process-initiating event, wherein the process-initiating event includes executing an operating system command line; and

automatically binding an existing network adapter to the network protocol.

7. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method of installing a network protocol on a computer comprising:

automatically loading the network protocol on the computer in response to a process-initiating event, wherein the process-initiating event is part of a software setup program execution; and

automatically binding an existing network adapter to the network protocol.

8. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method of installing a network protocol on a computer comprising:

automatically loading the network protocol on the computer in response to a process-initiating event, wherein the process-initiating event is part of a user login sequence to the computer; and
automatically binding an existing network adapter to the network protocol.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method of installing a network protocol on a computer comprising:

automatically loading the network protocol on the computer in response to a process-initiating event, wherein the process-initiating event is part of a mass deployment of the new network protocol; and
automatically binding an existing network adapter to the network protocol.

10-21. (Canceled)

22. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a network adapter; and

a processor configured to load a network protocol in the apparatus automatically in response to a process-initiating event and to bind the network adapter to the network protocol automatically, wherein the process-initiating event includes selecting a shortcut to a shared network location from the computer.

23. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a network adapter; and

a processor configured to load a network protocol in the apparatus automatically in response to a process-initiating event and to bind the network adapter to the network protocol

automatically, wherein the process-initiating event includes executing an operating system command line.

24. (New) An apparatus comprising:
a network adapter; and
a processor configured to load a network protocol in the apparatus automatically in response to a process-initiating event and to bind the network adapter to the network protocol automatically, wherein the process-initiating event is part of a software setup program execution.

25. (New) An apparatus comprising:
a network adapter; and
a processor configured to load a network protocol in the apparatus automatically in response to a process-initiating event and to bind the network adapter to the network protocol automatically, wherein the process-initiating event is part of a user login sequence to the computer.

26. (New) An article comprising a computer-readable medium that stores computer-executable instructions for causing a computer system to:
automatically load a network protocol on a computer in response to a process-initiation event, wherein the process-initiating event includes selecting a shortcut to a shared network location from the computer; and
automatically bind an existing network adapter to the network protocol.

27. (New) An article comprising a computer-readable medium that stores computer-executable instructions for causing a computer system to:
automatically load a network protocol on a computer in response to a process-initiation event, wherein the process-initiating event includes executing an operating system command line; and

automatically bind an existing network adapter to the network protocol.

28. (New) An article comprising a computer-readable medium that stores computer-executable instructions for causing a computer system to:

automatically load a network protocol on a computer in response to a process-initiation event, wherein the process-initiating event is part of a software setup program execution ; and
automatically bind an existing network adapter to the network protocol.

29. (New) An article comprising a computer-readable medium that stores computer-executable instructions for causing a computer system to:

automatically load a network protocol on a computer in response to a process-initiation event, wherein the process-initiating event is part of a user login sequence to the computer; and
automatically bind an existing network adapter to the network protocol.